

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

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1. A method for providing integrated remote monitoring services, comprising:

receiving and storing radio frequency
5 identification (RFID) data from an RFID system at a remote facility of a subscriber;

receiving and storing video data from a video system at the facility;

10 providing the subscriber with access to the stored RFID and video data; and

providing the subscriber with access to and control of a video camera in the video system at the facility.

15 2. The method of Claim 1, wherein the RFID and video information is received over the Internet and the subscriber is provided with access to the stored data and to the video camera through a web portal.

20 3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising processing the RFID data to determine whether an alert condition exists and notifying the subscriber if an alert condition exists

25 4. The method of Claim 3, wherein the alert is a subscriber-defined alert.

30 5. The method of Claim 3, further comprising generating an e-mail and transmitting the e-mail to the subscriber to notify the subscriber of the alert condition.

6. The method of Claim 3, wherein the alarm condition comprises less than a minimum number of employees in attendance at the facility.

5 7. The method of Claim 3, wherein the alarm condition comprises less than a minimum number of employees performing a specified function.

8. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
10 initiating a polling event in response to a specified event, the polling event operable to use the RFID system at the facility to poll an area of the facility to determine an inventory of tagged items within the area; and
15 receiving results of the polling event.

9. The method of Claim 8, wherein the specified event is a pre-defined time.

20 10. The method of Claim 8, wherein the specified event is a periodic event.

11. The method of Claim 8, further comprising:
determining whether all items have been
25 accounted for based on the polling results; and
generating an alert in response to unaccounted
for items.

12. The method of Claim 1, further comprising
30 processing the RFID data to generate a report for the subscriber.

DAL01:494582

15. A method for providing identity verification for access to a secure area, comprising:

eliciting a radio response from a radio frequency identification (RFID) tag at an access door of
5 a secure area;

determining whether access by a wearer of the RFID tag to the secure area is authorized based on the radio response;

recording a video image of the wearer of the
10 RFID tag at the access door; and

controlling access to the door to provide authorized access.

16. The method of Claim 15, further comprising
15 recording the video image in response to authorized access.

17. The method of Claim 15, further comprising
20 recording the video image in response to an attempt at unauthorized access.

18. The method of Claim 15, further comprising
25 recording the video image in response to the radio response from the RFID tag.

19. The method of Claim 15, further comprising
recording a series of video images of the wearer of the RFID tag at the access door.

20. A method for remotely notifying a subscriber of an alert condition at a facility, comprising:

receiving a radio frequency identification (RFID) action from an RFID system at a facility;

5 determining whether the RFID action corresponds to a pre-defined alert condition;

obtaining a video image associated with the RFID action if the RFID action corresponds to a pre-defined alert condition; and

10 electronically transmitting notice of the alert condition along with the video image for delivery to a manager of the facility.

21. The method of Claim 20, further comprising
15 electronically mailing the notice of the alert condition along with the video image over the internet to the manager of the facility.

22. The method of Claim 21, further comprising
20 obtaining and electronically transmitting a series of video images associated with the RFID action.

23. The method of Claim 20, wherein the RFID action comprises access to a specified area.

24. The method of Claim 20, further comprising:
determining whether an expected RFID action has
occurred by a specified time; and
electronically transmitting a notice that the
expected RFID action has not occurred to the manager of
the facility in response to determining that the expected
RFID action has not occurred.

25. A method for providing remote access services,
comprising:

receiving a request by a person for access to a
restricted area operated by a subscriber;

5 receiving a video image of the person
requesting access to the restricted area;

transmitting the request including the video
image to the subscriber for approval; and

10 allowing the requested access in response to
approval by the subscriber.

26. The method of Claim 25, further comprising
receiving and transmitting a series of video images of
the person requesting access to the restricted area.

15 27. The method of Claim 25, the act of receiving a
request comprising eliciting a radio response from a
radio frequency identification (RFID) tag at an access
door to the restricted area and the act of transmitting
20 the request including transmitting the radio response
from the RFID tag.